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James B. Finley Letters

9-23-1842

Letter from James Smith to James B. Finley

James Smith

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J. Smith
Sidney
1842

Or

J. B. Birdley
German Town
Ohio

Sidney September 23. 1842

brother. I deem it due to my self & you to inform
you that I will not be at conference & for reasons I do not
wish to name but I may say it is not because I could not
ride that distance although it would be with some diffi-
culty inasmuch as my health is very precarious it
would require three or four days to do my self any kind
of justice & if I were there I could not be of much benefit
I will therefore leave my case with you & the conference
leaving that you will do as you would wish to be done
by & in order ^{that} this may be done I will make a few sta-
tements in reference to my self & family & here let me
say that this has been a year of affliction yes of severe &
inexplicable affliction both as of my self & family my
first attack was the congestive fever with this I was aban-
t three months before I was able to get out on my feet
then the chills & fevers set in & continued till in June
during this time my liver lungs & kidneys all became
affected which induced me to have the advice & aid of the
three Physicians by the aid of whom & the bleeding & that of
Bleeding I have been partially restored but my lungs & liver
is still affected so that I can do but little with my hand
or mind in addition to my self my wife & daughter have
both been severely & dangerously afflicted my wife was
first taken with an inflammation in her head at which time
she was confined about two months she was then taken with
bilious fevers in which she was confined several months

which leaves us not only in a feeble state of health but
also in straitened circumstances & without means of remedy
my House which heretofore has been of some considerable help
has been unimpaired from the first of April till now & is likely
to remain so. brother Lindley I would be glad to thank you
if you
would do something to enable me to meet my necessary &
just demands I will now say though this has been a year of
affliction yet it has been a year of great Peace & joy to my
Soul I can say it has been good to be afflicted a year & was
happy when confined to my bed & happy since a blessed Religion
I am happy know & expect to be happy forever glory glory
be to God & that I was able to take the field again to hunt
up the lost sheep of the house of Israel but I am not but I hope
I will be I must close as for a superannuated relation
Do with me as you think best give my respects to sister Lind
ley, beahter Brooks & wife & tell my brethren at conference
if I never meet them again on earth I expect to meet ~~my~~
them in heaven I hope God will give you a peaceful & good
conference) and may continue yours to the end and joined
in the hands of a peaceable Gospel

Rev J B Lindley James Smith